

Claims:

1. The use of a combination of curcumin, or precursor or derivative thereof, at least one antioxidant and at least one edible oil in the prevention and/or treatment of tissue damage caused by non-physical insult.
2. Use according to claim 1, wherein the curcumin, antioxidant and edible oil are provided in combination, with the curcumin and antioxidant being at least partially dissolved in the oil.
3. Use according to claim 2, wherein the curcumin, antioxidant and edible oil are provided in combination, with the curcumin and antioxidant being substantially completely dissolved in the oil.
4. The use of a combination of curcumin, at least one antioxidant and at least one edible oil in the manufacture of a medicament for the prevention and/or treatment of tissue damage caused by non-physical insult.
5. Use according to any preceding claim, wherein the curcumin is provided in the form of a rhizomal extract of *Curcuma longa* Linn.
6. Use according to preceding claim, wherein diferuloyl methane is used as the curcumin component.
7. Use according to any preceding claim, wherein the insult is selected from chemotherapy and radiotherapy.
8. Use according to any preceding claim wherein the tissue damage is mucositis.
9. Use according to any of claims 1 to 7, wherein the tissue damage is to the central nervous system.
10. Use according to any preceding claim wherein the oil is a vegetable oil.

11. Use according to claim 10, wherein the oil is selected from at least one of the group consisting of linseed oil, olive oil, groundnut oil, borage seed oil, hempseed oil, grape seed oil, walnut oil, wheat germ oil, soybean oil, corn oil, borage seed oil, evening primrose oil and rapeseed oil.
12. Use according to claim 10 wherein the oil is sunflower oil.
13. Use according to any preceding claim, wherein the antioxidant is selected from at least one of the group consisting of include α -tocopherol, dimethyl sulfoxide, gamma linolenic acid, melatonin, thiol-containing agents, enzymes, ascorbic acid, selenium, carotene, flavonoids and extracts of *Astragalus membranaceus*, *Ginkgo biloba*, *Silybum marianum*, *Ligusticum chuaxiong*, *Panax ginseng* and *Scutellaria baicalensis*.
14. Use according to claim 14, wherein the antioxidant is α -tocopherol.
15. Use according to any preceding claim, wherein the curcumin, antioxidant and oil are formulated for co-administration.
16. Use according to any preceding claim, in the treatment of the effects of exposure to radiation.
17. A combination preparation as defined in any preceding claim, wherein the curcumin is present in an amount of 0.1g - 20g per Kg body weight.
18. A formulation according to claim 17, in a dosage form suited for topical or oral administration.
19. A method for the prevention or treatment of tissue damage caused by non-physical insult, comprising the administration to a patient in need thereof of a combination of curcumin, or precursor or derivative thereof, at least one antioxidant

and at least one edible oil, wherein said components or indications are in accordance with any of claims 1 to 16.

20. The method of claim 19, wherein the curcumin, or precursor or derivative thereof, at least one antioxidant and at least one edible oil are formulated and administered together.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein said combination is administered in conjunction with a course of radiotherapy.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein said combination is administered in conjunction with a course of chemotherapy.

23. The use of a combination of curcumin, or precursor or derivative thereof, at least one antioxidant and at least one edible oil, wherein the components are as defined in any of claims 1 to 16, for the:

prevention of cancer, particularly development of radiotherapy-induced secondary tumours.

prevention and treatment of UV induced dermatitis (sunburn).

treatment of acute and chronic wounds on skin or buccal/oral mucosa and acceleration of healing of such wounds.